

To: Wharton, Steve[Wharton.Steve@epa.gov]
From: Lewis, Brent
Sent: Mon 8/17/2015 2:54:01 PM
Subject: Fwd: Animas update Friday pm 8/14/15

FWD email from USGS. They have several tasks in motion on the Animas.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Horton, Robert** <rhorton@usgs.gov>

Date: Fri, Aug 14, 2015 at 4:02 PM

Subject: Animas update Friday pm 8/14/15

To: Laura Bexfield <bexfield@usgs.gov>, Allison Shipp <aashipp@usgs.gov>, Andrew Todd <atodd@usgs.gov>, Brent Lewis <Brent_Lewis@blm.gov>, Breton Bruce <bbruce@usgs.gov>, Cory Angeroth <angeroth@usgs.gov>, D Kirk Nordstrom <dkn@usgs.gov>, David L Fey <dfey@usgs.gov>, David Lytle <dlytle@usgs.gov>, David Mau <dpmau@usgs.gov>, David Reppert <dreppert@usgs.gov>, David Susong <ddsusong@usgs.gov>, Douglas B Yager <dyager@usgs.gov>, Geoffrey S Plumlee <gplumlee@usgs.gov>, Heidi K Koontz <hkoontz@usgs.gov>, Holly Weyers <hsweyers@usgs.gov>, James M Leenhouts <leenhout@usgs.gov>, Jean M Morrison <jmorrison@usgs.gov>, Jerad Bales <jdbales@usgs.gov>, Joan Card <Card.Joan@epa.gov>, JoAnn M Holloway <jholloway@usgs.gov>, Katie Walton-Day <kwaltond@usgs.gov>, Kent Becher <kdbecher@usgs.gov>, Matt Ely <mely@usgs.gov>, Michael Lewis <mlewis@usgs.gov>, Pat Lambert <patlambert@wswc.utah.gov>, Peter Griffiths <pggriffi@usgs.gov>, rich wanty <rwanty@usgs.gov>, Robert J Hart <bhart@usgs.gov>, Robert Kimbrough <rakimbro@usgs.gov>, Robert Runkel <runkel@usgs.gov>, Scott Vanderkooi <svanderkooi@usgs.gov>, Suzanne Paschke <spaschke@usgs.gov>, Thomas Chapin <tchapin@usgs.gov>, Timothy Raines <thraines@usgs.gov>, Todd <thoefen@usgs.gov>, Trude King <tking@usgs.gov>, Vineetha Kartha <vkartha@azwater.gov>, Max Ethridge <methridge@usgs.gov>, Donald Bills <djbills@usgs.gov>

All, here is an update on the Animas mine spill activities since yesterday. Note, if you are on this email list and don't want to be, let me know.

Rob Runkel (CWSC) is returning from Silverton/Durango to Denver today, with samples.

SWR got a high priority request from EPA regarding anomalies seen in their monitoring data. They requested the help of someone familiar with the hydrology of the watershed. Apparently they were getting unexplained "spikes" in their data. I have not seen their data but suspect the anomalies are due to storm/runoff events as UTWSC discussed in yesterday's call. KWD agreed to take the lead in that assistance request.

NMWSC is sending a team of four hydrologists to the Four Corners to participate with NM Tech and OSE in a synoptic groundwater level survey of domestic wells along the Animas River. The goal is to identify gaining and losing reaches of the river to aid in evaluating potential effects of the spill on local groundwater supplies.

From AZGS. Regarding EPA (Tom Dunkelman,EPA hydrologist(?)) sampling of the San Juan arm of Lake Powell. They are shipping out of Page today to boat up Lake Powell and in to the San Juan. This is some of their earliest sampling there. At this point, sampling of Lake Powell will be limited to several surface samples. EPA plans to hook up with USGS and Dept of Rec next week to piggyback on USGS plans to sampling of the [Lake Powell] water column and sediments for Hg.

Don Bills (AWSC) fielded a call from Navajo Nation EPA. Don suggested that NNEPA contact CWSC or NMWSC directly if they had questions about their water sampling.

USGS Budget Office made an inquiry about USGS Tribal assistance related to the spill, apparently in response to a DOI data call.

Did a late email exchange with Sky Bristol (CSS) about using ScienceBase to quickly release our data to the public (a Mike Lewis idea). Sky's response was immediate, he has a site ready, I can upload data this weekend if necessary. I think with the guidance we have from OSQI and Sky's help we can put out data with minimal delay.

Heidi Koontz (PA) has a "final" draft of the USGS Aminos spill Top Story. Hope to see it up early next week.

Sorry if I missed anything, all your efforts are appreciated. If something comes up this weekend that you need assistance with, call my cell 303.704.9744.

Have a good weekend, will send next up date Monday pm.

-B

AWSC - Arizona Water Science Center
CWSC - Colorado Water Science Center
UTWSC - Utah Water Science Center
NMWSC - New Mexico Water Science Center
CGGSC - Crustal Geophysics and Geochemistry Science Center
KWD - Katie Walton-Day Colorado Water Science Center
CMR - Central Minerals Science Center
CSS - Core Science Systems
PA - Public Affairs
AZGS - Arizona State Geological Survey
SWR - Southwest Region

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